

What is Claimed is:

1. An exterior mirror for a vehicle comprising:
a mirror housing assembly including a reflective element normally facing in a direction for viewing rearward; and
an electrically powered folding mechanism operably folding and maintaining the mirror between a rearward and a forward direction, wherein the mirror housing is operable to travel a greater distance in the forward direction relative to the distance traveled in the rearward direction, whereby the overall width dimension of the vehicle is reduced.
2. The mirror according to claim 1 wherein said mirror housing is substantially ahead of a vehicle windshield when folded in the forward direction.
3. The mirror according to claim 1 further comprising an attachment assembly including a sail portion, said attachment assembly attaching the mirror housing to the exterior of the vehicle.
4. The mirror according to claim 3 wherein the attachment assembly includes at least one attachment arm coupled between the mirror housing and the sail portion, said folding mechanism folding the mirror at a connection point between the at least one arm and the sail portion.

5. The mirror according to claim 1 wherein the mirror is foldable to a second position adjacent a side window.